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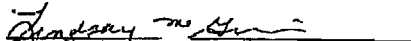
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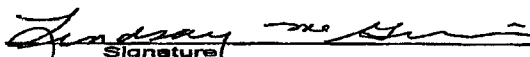
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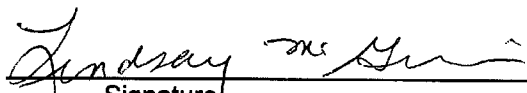
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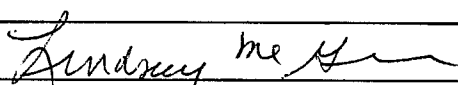
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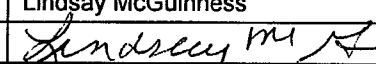
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	Filing Date	12/07/1999
	First Named Inventor	Cain
	Group Art Unit	2663
	Examiner Name	Duong
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number 120-241

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return Receipt Postcard
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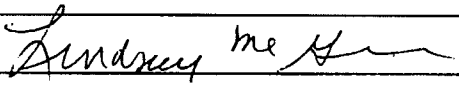
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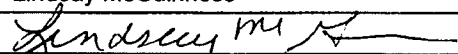
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	Filing Date	12/07/1999	
	First Named Inventor	Cain	
	Group Art Unit	2663	
	Examiner Name	Duong	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	120-241

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Cain

Application No.: 09/455,955

Filed: 12/07/1999

Title: System, Device and Method for Distributing
Link State Information in a Communication Network

Attorney Docket No.: 2204/184 120-241

Group Art Unit: 2663

Examiner: Juntima

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiners' phone call of December 2, 2004, and further in order to place the appeal of this application in proper order, entry of the below amendment, which cancels claims 4-6, is respectfully requested.

In the claims:

CLAIMS

1. (Previously Amended) A method for distributing link state information by a node to a neighbor in a communication system, the method comprising:
 - sending a first link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor; and
 - sending a second link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor prior to receiving an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - monitoring for an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message;
 - failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message within a predetermined timeout period; and
 - retransmitting the first link state advertisement protocol message.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:
 - retransmitting the second link state advertisement protocol message.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled).
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Original) A device for distributing link state information in a communication network, the device comprising a link state routing protocol having a sliding window mechanism with a window size greater than one (1) for sending up to a predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages without receiving an acknowledgement for any of said link state advertisement protocol messages.

8. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 7, wherein the link state protocol comprises:

link state distribution logic operably coupled to generate link state advertisement protocol messages; and

sliding window logic responsive to the link state distribution logic and operably coupled to maintain a sliding window for sending up to a predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to a neighbor without receiving an acknowledgement for any of said link state advertisement protocol messages.

9. (Original) The device of claim 8, wherein the sliding window logic is operably coupled to send a first link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor and to send a second link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor prior to receiving an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message.

10. (Original) The device of claim 9, wherein the sliding window logic is operably coupled to monitor for an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message and to retransmit the first link state advertisement protocol message upon failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message within a predetermined timeout period.

11. (Original) The device of claim 10, wherein the sliding window logic is operably coupled to retransmit the second link state advertisement protocol message.

12. (Original) The device of claim 8, wherein the sliding window logic is operably coupled to send the predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to the neighbor and to wait for an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for at least one of the link state advertisement protocol messages before sending another link state advertisement protocol message.

13. (Original) The device of claim 12, wherein the sliding window logic is operably coupled to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for a first link state advertisement protocol message and to send another link state advertisement protocol message.

14. (Original) The device of claim 12, wherein the sliding window logic is operably coupled to retransmit at least a first unacknowledged link state advertisement protocol message upon failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor within a predetermined timeout period.

15. (Previously Amended) A program product comprising a computer readable medium having embodied therein a computer program for distributing link state information in a communication network, the computer program comprising a link state routing protocol having a sliding window mechanism with a window size greater than one (1) for sending up to a predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages without receiving an acknowledgement for any of said link state advertisement protocol messages.

16. (Previously Amended) The program product of claim 15, wherein the link state routing protocol comprises:

link state distribution logic programmed to generate link state advertisement protocol messages; and

sliding window logic responsive to the link state distribution logic and programmed to maintain a sliding window for sending up to a predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to a neighbor without receiving an acknowledgement for any of said link state advertisement protocol messages.

17. (Original) The program product of claim 16, wherein the sliding window logic is programmed to send a first link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor and to send a second link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor prior to receiving an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message.

18. (Original) The program product of claim 17, wherein the sliding window logic is programmed to monitor for an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message and to retransmit the first link state advertisement protocol message upon failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message within a predetermined timeout period.

19. (Original) The program product of claim 18, wherein the sliding window logic is programmed to retransmit the second link state advertisement protocol message.

20. (Original) The program product of claim 16, wherein the sliding window logic is programmed to send the predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to the neighbor and to wait for an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for at least one of the link state advertisement protocol messages before sending another link state advertisement protocol message.

21. (Original) The program product of claim 20, wherein the sliding window logic is programmed to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for a first link state advertisement protocol message and to send another link state advertisement protocol message.

22. (Original) The program product of claim 20, wherein the sliding window logic is programmed to retransmit at least a first unacknowledged link state advertisement protocol message upon failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor within a predetermined timeout period.

23. (Original) A communication system comprising a node in communication with a neighbor, wherein the node includes a link state routing protocol having a sliding window mechanism with a window size greater than one (1) for sending up to a predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to the neighbor without receiving an acknowledgement for any of said link state advertisement protocol messages from the neighbor.

24. (Original) The communication system of claim 23, wherein the node is operably coupled to send a first link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor and to send a second link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor prior to receiving an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol messages.

25. (Original) The communication system of claim 24, wherein the node is operably coupled to monitor for an acknowledgment message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message and to retransmit the first link state advertisement protocol message upon failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message within a predetermined timeout period.

26. (Original) The communication system of claim 25, wherein the node is operably coupled to retransmit the second link state advertisement protocol message.

27. (Original) The communication system of claim 23, wherein the node is operably coupled to maintain a sliding window for sending up to a predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to the neighbor, to send the predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to the neighbor, and to wait for an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for at least one of the link state advertisement protocol messages before sending another link state advertisement protocol message.

28. (Original) The communication system of claim 27, wherein the node is operably coupled to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for a first link state advertisement protocol message and to send another link state advertisement protocol message.

29. (Original) The communication system of claim 27, wherein the node is operably coupled to retransmit at least a first unacknowledged link state advertisement protocol message upon failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor within a predetermined timeout period.

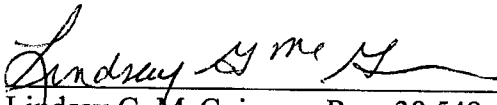
30. (Original) A link state routing protocol comprising a sliding window mechanism.
31. (Original) The link state routing protocol of claim 30, comprising open shortest path first (OSPF) routing protocol logic in combination with the sliding window mechanism.

REMARKS

Applicants believe that the above amendment places the application in conformance with the outstanding appeal brief, and entry is respectfully requested. Should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Lindsay mcGuinness, Applicant's Attorney at 978-264-6664 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

12/2/2003
Date


Lindsay G. McGuinness Reg. 38,549
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
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Acton, MA 01720
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Docket No. 120-241
Dd: 12/24/2003